

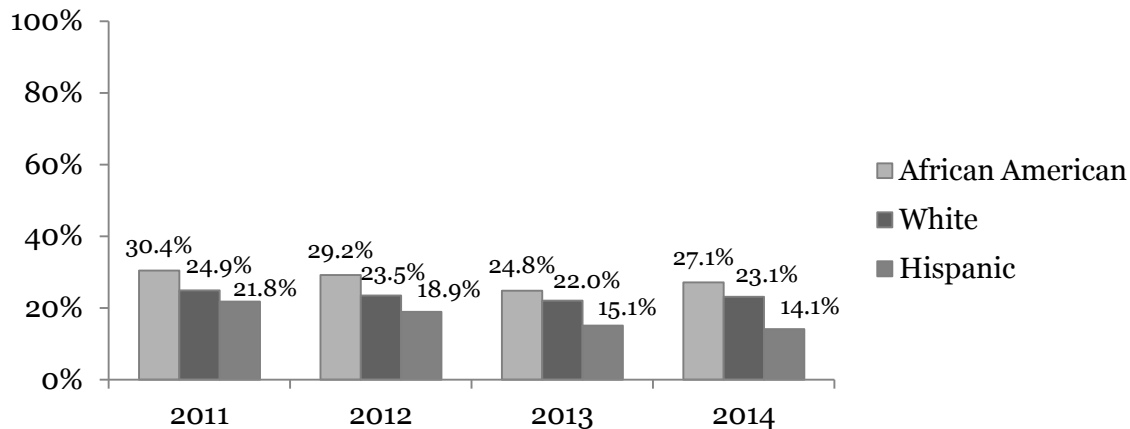
Indiana African Americans & Smoking

Each year, approximately 45,000 African Americans in the U.S. die from a preventable smoking-related disease.¹ Smoking significantly increases the risk of stroke, heart disease, and cancers. Nationally, the rate of stroke rate is twice as high among African Americans as among whites, and death rates due to heart disease and cancer are substantially higher among African Americans than whites.^{1, 2} Additionally, tobacco is estimated to cause 63% of cancer deaths among black men in the United States.³

Smoking Rates among African Americans in Indiana and the U.S.

- The current smoking rate for Hoosier African Americans in 2014 was 27.1%,⁴ slightly higher than the national smoking rate among African Americans (22.2% in 2013).⁵
- The prevalence of smoking among African Americans in Indiana is higher than the smoking prevalence among whites and Hispanics and higher than the overall Indiana adult smoking rate of 22.9%.⁴

**Indiana Adult Smoking Rates by Race/Ethnicity,*
BRFSS 2011-2014**



*African American and White categories include only non-Hispanic individuals. Hispanics may be of any race.

Menthol Cigarettes among African Americans

- Among current smokers, menthol cigarette smoking is far higher among African Americans (75.9 %) than whites (18.3%).⁶
- Studies have found higher relapse rates among menthol smokers when compared to smokers of non-mentholated cigarettes.⁷
- Menthol may facilitate absorption of harmful cigarette smoke constituents. Higher rates of lung cancer in African American smokers may be linked to a preference for menthol cigarettes.

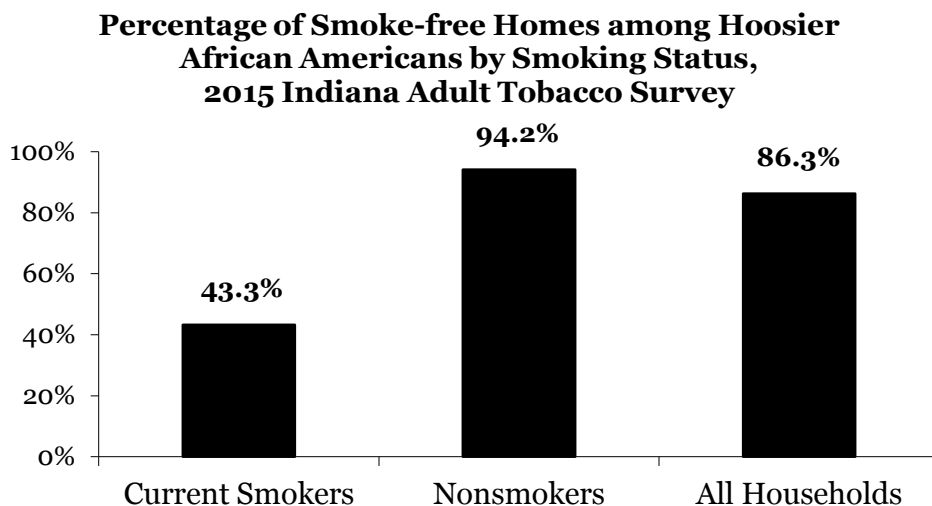


Quit Intentions of Hoosier African Americans

- Approximately half of African Americans who smoke (49.9%) plan to quit smoking in the next thirty days, compared with 26.6% of whites who smoke. An additional 41.5% of African Americans who smoke plan to quit at some point beyond the next 30 days.⁶
- The majority (69.5%) of African Americans who smoke reported attempting to quit in the last twelve months.⁴
- In 2015, a similar proportion of African Americans (10.9%) and whites (11.7%) who have smoked reported successfully quitting in the past year.

Indiana African Americans' attitudes about smoke-free air policy⁶

- Over seventy percent (70.5%) of African Americans believe that it is very harmful to breathe secondhand smoke.
- The majority (79.2%) of African Americans in Indiana believe that smoking should not be allowed in most public places.
- The majority of Hoosier African Americans (86.3%) report having smoke-free homes, but non-smokers (94.2%) are significantly more likely to live in a smoke-free home than current smokers (43.3%).



¹ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Tobacco Use Among U.S. Racial/Ethnic Minority Groups — African Americans, American Indians and Alaska Natives, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and Latinos: A Report of the Surgeon General, 1998.

² American Cancer Society. Cancer Facts & Figures for African Americans 2013-2014. Atlanta: American Cancer Society, 2013.

³ Leistikow B, Tsodikov A. Cancer death epidemics in United States black males: Evaluating courses, causation, and cures. *Preventive Medicine* 2005; 41(2):380-385.

⁴ Indiana State Department of Health. Indiana Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. 2014.

⁵ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and health Promotion, Division of Population Health. BRFSS Prevalence & Trends Data [online]. 2015. [accessed 06 Aug, 2015]/
<http://wwwdev.cdc.gov/brfssprevalence/>.

⁶ Indiana State Department of Health. 2015 Indiana Adult Tobacco Survey.

⁷ Gandhi KK, Foulds J, Steinberg MB, Lu SE, Williams JM. Lower quit rates among African American and Latino menthol smokers at a tobacco treatment clinic. *Int J Clin Prac* 2009; 63(3):360-367.